

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, and 23 were previously canceled. Claims 3, 11, 13, 24, and 25 are canceled herein. Claims 2, 4 through 7, and 12 are amended herein. Please replace the pending claims with the claims as listed below.

Listing of claims:

1. (Canceled).

2. (Currently amended) An improved atomizer of the type in which a fluid housed inside a container is ejected through a nozzle, the improvement comprising: a bottle operable as the container to hold the fluid, the bottle comprising a generally cylindrical portion;

a resilient element structured to form a self-biased engagement with a wall of the cylindrical portion of the bottle at a plurality of locations along an axis of the bottle, the resilient element having a size larger than the cylindrical portion of the bottle so as to permit suspension of the bottle by the resilient element, in a receiving socket of a storage device; and

an extension conduit between a pump mechanism and an atomizing nozzle, said conduit being malleable and deformable to permit a user to adjust the orientation of a direction of discharge from said nozzle, wherein the improved atomizer is in combination with a brace with a first end adapted for engagement with the bottle, and a second end carrying structure adapted to engage the conduit at a location spaced apart distally from the pump mechanism, the brace being operable to resist movement of the nozzle during actuation of the pump mechanism.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently amended) The improved atomizer of claim [[3]] 2, wherein: the first end of said brace is configured and arranged to form a clip-on attachment to a portion of said bottle.

5. (Currently amended) The improved atomizer of claim [[3]] 2, wherein:
the second end of said brace is configured and arranged to form a clip-on attachment to said
conduit.

6. (Currently amended) The improved atomizer of claim [[3]] 2, wherein:
a damping structure carried at the second end of said brace is configured and arranged to resist
motion, induced by said pump-mechanism, of a portion of said conduit distal to said
damping structure.

7. (Currently amended) The improved atomizer of claim [[3]] 2, wherein:
said pump mechanism comprises a pump head displaceable by a human digit through a vertical
distance between a first and a second elevation; and
said brace is configured and arranged to hold said conduit to provide a fulcrum location at a third
elevation, said third elevation being approximately midway between said first and said
second elevations, so as to reduce a horizontal displacement of the fulcrum during
vertical actuation of said pump mechanism.

8. and 9. (Canceled).

10. (Previously presented) A stabilized pump-bottle fluid atomizer, comprising:
a pump mechanism operable to pressurize and eject fluid from confinement inside a pump-bottle,
the pump mechanism comprising a pump head displaceable by a human digit through a
vertical distance between a first and a second elevation;
a conduit between the pump head and a fluid atomizing nozzle; and
a brace between the pump-bottle and the conduit, the brace being configured and arranged to
hold the conduit so as to resist motion of said nozzle during actuation of said pump
mechanism, wherein:
a structure carried by said brace is adapted to provide a fulcrum location for localized bending of
said conduit at a third elevation, said third elevation being approximately midway
between said first and said second elevations so as to reduce a horizontal displacement of
the fulcrum during vertical actuation of said pump mechanism.

11. (Canceled).

12. (Currently amended) A stabilized pump-bottle fluid atomizer comprising:
a pump mechanism operable to pressurize and eject fluid from confinement inside a pump-bottle,
the pump mechanism comprising a pump head displaceable by a human digit through a
vertical distance between a first and a second elevation;
a conduit between the pump head and a fluid atomizing nozzle; [[and]]
a brace between the pump-bottle and the conduit, the brace being configured and arranged to
hold the conduit so as to resist motion of the nozzle during actuation of the pump
mechanism, and
a resilient element adapted to engage a wall of a cylindrical portion of the pump-bottle at a
plurality of locations along an axis of the pump-bottle, the resilient element having a
diameter larger than the cylindrical portion of the pump-bottle so as to permit suspension
of the pump-bottle by the resilient element in a socket of a storage device wherein:
said pump head is adapted for removable attachment to said pump mechanism, so as to permit
replacement of a unitary assembly comprising said pump head, the conduit, and said
atomizing nozzle.

13. through 16. (Canceled).

17. (Previously presented) The pump-bottle fluid atomizer of claim 19, wherein:
the second end of said brace is configured and arranged to form a clip-on attachment to a portion
of said conduit between said pump head and said nozzle.

18. (Previously presented) The pump-bottle fluid atomizer of claim 19, wherein:
a proximal portion of said conduit, located between said pump head and structure carried at the
second end of said brace, is configured and arranged to reduce a horizontal deflection of
said nozzle during actuation of said pump mechanism.

19. (Previously presented) A pump-bottle fluid atomizer, comprising:

a bottle structured to hold a fluid;

a pump mechanism operable to pressurize and eject fluid from confinement inside the bottle, the pump mechanism comprising a pump head displaceable by a human digit through a vertical distance between a first and a second elevation;

a conduit between the pump head and a fluid atomizing nozzle, the conduit comprising a malleable and deformable portion permitting a user to adjust the orientation of a direction of discharge from the nozzle;

a brace between the bottle and the conduit, the brace being operable to reduce motion of the nozzle during actuation of the pump mechanism, wherein:

the brace comprises first and second ends;

the first end being adapted for attachment to the bottle; and

the second end being adapted for removable attachment to the conduit at a location spaced apart distally from the pump head; and

said brace is configured and arranged to produce a fulcrum about which said conduit may bend so as to allow a vertical deflection of a proximal portion of said conduit and accommodate actuation of said pump mechanism; the fulcrum being located at a third elevation approximately midway between said first and second elevations to reduce a horizontal motion induced in the fulcrum by the vertical deflection of said proximal portion of said conduit.

20. (Previously presented) The pump-bottle fluid atomizer of claim 19, further comprising:

a resilient element adapted to engage a wall of said bottle at one or more locations along an axis of said bottle, a combined cross-section of said resilient element and said wall having a size to permit suspension of said bottle by said resilient element in a socket of a commercially available storage device.

21. through 25. (Canceled).